

BOOK REVIEWS

New and Nonofficial Remedies, 1923, containing descriptions of the articles which stand accepted by the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry of the American Medical Association on January 1, 1923. Cloth. Price, postpaid, \$1.50. Pp. 415 + XXXVI. Chicago: American Medical Association, 1923.

The progressive, up-to-date physician cannot dispense with the newer remedies, proprietary and non-proprietary. Yet he can neither select them on the basis of the manufacturers' claims alone, nor devote his patients to experiments while he tries out those claims.

New and Nonofficial Remedies is the publication of the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry through which this body annually presents the American medical profession with disinterested, critical information about the proprietary medicines which are offered to the profession, and which the Council deems worthy of recognition. In addition to the descriptions of proprietary preparations, the book contains descriptions of those nonofficial remedies which the Council deems deserving of consideration by the profession.

A valuable feature of the book is the grouping preparations in classes. Each of these is introduced by a general discussion of the group. Thus the silver preparations, the iodine preparations, the arsenic preparations, the animal organ preparations, the biologic products, etc., each is preceded by a general, thoroughly up-to-date discussion of the particular group. These general articles compare the value of the products included in the group with similar pharmacopeial and other established drugs which it is proposed that these proprietary preparations shall supplant.

A glance at the preface of this volume shows that the book has been extensively revised. In fact, each edition of New and Nonofficial Remedies is essentially a newly written book, brought up to date by those who speak with authority on the various phases of therapeutics.

Physicians who wish to know why a given proprietary is not described in New and Nonofficial Remedies will find the References to Proprietary and Unofficial Articles not found in N. N. R. of much value. In this chapter (in the back of the book) are given references to published articles dealing with preparations which have not been accepted.

New and Nonofficial Remedies should be in the hands of all physicians who prescribe drugs. The book contains information about the newer materia medica which cannot be found in any other publication.

The book will be sent postpaid by the American Medical Association, 535 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, on receipt of one dollar and fifty cents.

The Form and Functions of the Central Nervous System. An introduction to the study of nervous diseases. By Frederick Tilney, M. D., and Henry Alsop Riley, M. D. Second edition. 1019 pages. Illustrated. New York: Paul Hoeber. 1923. Price \$12.00.

The American medical profession has done itself credit in making a reprint of this splendid work necessary within less than two years from its first publication. The authors have seized the opportunity "to correct typographical and other errors usually found in first editions" and to make minor changes, including some suggested by readers. In the main the book is unchanged.

There is no work extant which quite fills the place which this does and it is an inexhaustible source for reference for the neurologist, as well as

for the general practitioner and the student in search of full information. The paragraphs on symptomatology and the discussions of the principal syndromes connected with the different subdivisions of the cerebro-spinal axis, together with the case histories and autopsy reports, make its practical value inestimable. Glossary and bibliography put the finishing touches to a work which has added immensely to the prestige of American neurology.

The press work of the second edition is improved, both text and illustrations standing out more sharply than in the first edition. This is no doubt due to the change in paper. The volume is more compactly bound than before, but still has the distressing weight of six and a quarter pounds, from which no escape can be suggested.

E. W. T.

Bronchoscopy and Esophagoscopy. A manual of peroral and endoscopy and laryngeal surgery. By Chevalier Jackson. 356 pp. Illustrated. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company. 1922.

In this little book of 310 pages, Jackson covers in general the same ground to which he devoted 710 pages in his "Peroral Endoscopy." The more recent work is designed as a manual of technic but the author included considerable of a clinical and theoretical nature. These are the most unsatisfactory parts of the book, for example the discussion of the nature of cardiospasm.

There is no discussion of instrumentarium or technic except as in use at Jackson's clinic. Those who prefer other methods will accordingly find the book very incomplete. The chapter on gastroscopy does not fully reflect the present status of this procedure and could be omitted entirely without serious loss.

The definite stamp of the author's personality is evident throughout the work and is a welcome feature. His "do's" and "don'ts" may be a little epigrammatic but they contain a lot of sense. However, there are dogmatic statements which are not endorsed by all workers and which might not have the full endorsement of all physicians. For example, the condemnation of blind bouginage of the esophagus for any purpose is contrary to the experience of many physicians who find this a valuable procedure. It is open to discussion whether bouginage is more dangerous than esophagoscopy. The insistence on sterile technic is not in conformity with universal opinion as the author states. For esophagoscopy, at least sterilization of the instruments after use, meets all reasonable requirements. The recommended use of 20 per cent cocaine solution as a local anesthetic without admixture of adrenalin is a hazardous departure from the methods of some of the best clinics.

In general, we may say that as a presentation of Jackson's methods this work is excellent. As a scientific monograph on the subject it leaves much to be desired.

G. F. H.

Diseases of the Nervous System, a Text-Book of Neurology and Psychiatry. By Smith Ely Jelliffe, M. D., and William A. White, M. D. Lea and Febiger, Philadelphia and New York, 1923.

The broad conception of disease in general and neuropsychiatry in particular held by the authors is well known and appreciated by a large body of physicians.

The fourth edition just issued holds to these broad principles and applies them in diagnosis and treatment of individual conditions.

In the preface to the new edition, the authors have defined their purpose—a purpose they have held constantly in mind throughout the book. They have conceived "it to be of much greater importance to reflect in their work the major tendencies which are operating throughout the field of neuropsychiatry, so that the student will not only have pre-